

What is claimed is:

1. Tab and label stapler apparatus comprising a staple gun means, a tab and label feeding attachment connected thereto and tab and label magazine;
wherein the staple gun means is associated with said apparatus and operable to deliver a penetrating fastening means into a fixing surface;
wherein a tab and label magazine provides a receptacle for a plurality of planar material segments useful as labels and tabs;
wherein the tab and label feeding attachment retains the tab and label magazine;
wherein the tab and label feeding attachment comprises a depressible contacting means and an indexing means;
wherein the depressible contacting means and the indexing means are mechanically linked so that the indexing means positions a planar material segment between the penetrating fastening means and the fixing surface when the depressible contacting means is depressed as it is contacted against the fixing surface;
wherein the indexing means moves to a retracted position when the depressible contacting means is released;
wherein the retracted position is suitable for indexing a subsequent planar material segment; and
wherein the staple gun means operates to force the penetrating fastening means through a planar material segment positioned by the indexing means into the fixing surface.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein in the tab and label feeding attachment is a highly compact tab and label feeding attachment.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein in the tab and label feeding attachment further comprises a housing, attachment means, contacting plunger, and a torsion spring assembly.
4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the planar material segments are tabs of thickness from 0.015 to 0.050 inch and planar dimensions larger than 0.75 inches.
5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the tabs are of thickness from 0.030 to 0.035 inch and of planar dimensions from 0.75 to 1.5 inches in width and from 0.75 to 6 inches in length.
6. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the indexing means further comprises a motion translation means selected from the group of motion translation means consisting of rack and pinion, worm gear and drive gear, slot and post, slot and key, and cam and follower.
7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the motion translation means is a rack and pinion.
8. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the contacting plunger further comprises a roller assembly attached at the outermost portion of the plunger.
9. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the tab and label magazine further comprises a magazine housing, one or more coil springs and a pusher plate.
10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the magazine housing further comprises a lateral support and a capturing element on each of two parallel sides of the magazine housing.
11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the magazine housing is manufactured of a polymer selected from the group of polymers consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyamide, polytetrafluoroethylene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polyvinyl chloride, and polyvinylidene fluoride.

12. The apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a pressure spring fixedly attached to the tab and label feeding attachment housing.
13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the magazine housing further comprises tab and label retaining means comprising two retaining tabs, an outermost surface and a feed retaining bar.
14. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the magazine housing is manufactured of a polymer selected from the group of polymers consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polyamide, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyvinyl chloride, and polyvinylidene fluoride.
15. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the front most edge of the indexing means comprises three zones configured for a planar material segment useful as a tab, wherein the front most zone is at an angle from 30 to 45 degrees, wherein the rear most zone is at an angle from 15 to 30 degrees, wherein the intermediate zone is at an angle of approximately 90 degrees, and wherein the thickness of the intermediate zone is within 0.005 inches of the thickness of the planar segment useful as a tab.
16. The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a front guide assembly attached to the staple gun.
17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the front guide assembly further comprises a roller assembly attached at the outermost portion of the front guide assembly.
18. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the staple gun means is pneumatically operable.
19. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the staple gun means is electrically operable.
20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the staple gun means further comprises a battery means for supplying electrical energy and wherein the battery means is integrally attached to the staple gun means.

21. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the penetrating fastening means are wire staples having a wire gauge selected from the group of gauges consisting of 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22 gauge and a crown dimension selected from the group of dimensions of 3/16" and 3/4".
22. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the tab and label magazine accommodates a minimum of 18 tabs.
23. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the staple gun is a Behrens Model 380.
24. Tab stapler apparatus comprising a staple gun means, a tab feeding attachment connected thereto and tab label magazine;
- wherein the staple gun means is associated with said apparatus and operable to deliver a penetrating fastening means into a fixing surface;
- wherein the tab feeding attachment comprises a depressible contacting means, housing, attachment means, contacting plunger, torsion spring assembly, and an indexing means;
- wherein a tab magazine provides a receptacle for a plurality of planar material segments useful as tabs;
- wherein the tab feeding attachment retains the tab magazine;
- wherein the depressible contacting means and the indexing means are mechanically linked so that the indexing means positions a planar material segment between the penetrating fastening means and the fixing surface when the depressible contacting means is depressed as it is contacted against the fixing surface;
- wherein the indexing means moves to a retracted position when the depressible contacting means is released;

wherein the retracted position is suitable for indexing a subsequent planar material segment;

wherein the staple gun means operates to force the penetrating fastening means through a planar material segment positioned by the indexing means into the fixing surface; and

wherein the indexing means further comprises a motion translation means selected from the group of motion translation means consisting of rack and pinion, worm gear and drive gear, slot and post, slot and key, and cam and follower.

25. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the tab feeding attachment is a highly compact tab feeding attachment.
26. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the planar material segments are tabs of thickness from 0.015 to 0.050 inch and planar dimensions larger than 0.75 inches.
27. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the tabs are of thickness from 0.030 to 0.035 inch and of planar dimensions from 0.75 to 1.5 inches in width and from 0.75 to 6 inches in length.
28. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the front most edge of the indexing means comprises three zones configured for a planar material segment useful as a tab, wherein the front most zone is at an angle from 30 to 45 degrees, wherein the rear most zone is at an angle from 15 to 30 degrees, wherein the intermediate zone is at an angle of approximately 90 degrees, and wherein the thickness of the intermediate zone is within 0.005 inches of the thickness of the planar segment useful as a tab.
29. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the front of the indexing means further comprises an indexing slide and two indexing slide arms.

30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the indexing slide and indexing slide arms are interconnected with a dovetail joint between the indexing slide and each of the indexing slide arms.
31. Tab stapler apparatus comprising a staple gun means, a tab feeding attachment connected thereto and tab magazine;
- wherein the staple gun means is associated with said apparatus and operable to deliver a penetrating fastening means into a fixing surface;
- wherein a tab magazine provides a receptacle for a plurality of planar material segments useful as labels and tabs;
- wherein the tab feeding attachment retains the tab magazine;
- wherein the tab feeding attachment comprises a depressible contacting means, housing, attachment means and an indexing means;
- wherein the depressible contacting means and the indexing means are pneumatically operated so that the indexing means positions a planar material segment between the penetrating fastening means and the fixing surface when the depressible contacting means is depressed as it is contacted against the fixing surface;
- wherein the indexing means comprises a piston assembly;
- wherein the indexing means moves to a retracted position when the depressible contacting means is released;
- wherein the retracted position is suitable for indexing a subsequent planar material segment; and
- wherein the staple gun means operates to force the penetrating fastening means through a planar material segment positioned by the indexing means into the fixing surface.

32. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the tab feeding attachment is a highly compact tab feeding attachment.
33. The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the planar material segments are tabs of thickness from 0.015 to 0.050 inch and planar dimensions larger than 0.75 inches.
34. The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the tabs are of thickness from 0.030 to 0.035 inch and of planar dimensions from 0.75 to 1.5 inches in width and from 0.75 to 6 inches in length.
35. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the front most edge of the indexing means comprises three zones configured for a planar material segment useful as a tab, wherein the front most zone is at an angle from 30 to 45 degrees, wherein the rear most zone is at an angle from 15 to 30 degrees, wherein the intermediate zone is at an angle of approximately 90 degrees, and wherein the thickness of the intermediate zone is within 0.005 inches of the thickness of the planar segment useful as a tab.
36. The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the contacting plunger further comprises a roller assembly attached at the outermost portion of the plunger.
37. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the tab and label magazine further comprises a magazine housing, one or more coil springs and a pusher plate.
38. The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the magazine housing further comprises a lateral support and a capturing element on each of two parallel sides of the magazine housing.
39. The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the magazine housing is manufactured of a polymer selected from the group of polymers consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyamide, polytetrafluoroethylene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polyvinyl chloride, and polyvinylidene fluoride.

40. The apparatus of claim 31 further comprising a pressure spring fixedly attached to the tab and label feeding attachment housing.
41. The apparatus of claim 40 wherein the magazine housing further comprises tab and label retaining means comprising two retaining tabs, an outermost surface and a feed retaining bar.
42. The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the magazine housing is manufactured of a polymer selected from the group of polymers consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, polyamide, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyvinyl chloride, and polyvinylidene fluoride.
43. The apparatus of claim 31 further comprising a front guide assembly attached to the staple gun.
44. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the staple gun means is pneumatically operable.
45. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the penetrating fastening means are wire staples having a wire gauge selected from the group of gauges consisting of 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22 gauge and a crown dimension selected from the group of dimensions of 3/16" and 3/4".
46. The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the tab and label magazine accommodates a minimum of 18 tabs.
47. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the staple gun is a Behrens Model 380.